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SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF

CLIVE BARKER

HYPERKIND™

MEET THE
MOST
DANCEY
WANK
IN THE
WORLD

OH, YOU'RE
TOO KIND.

DIRECT EDITION

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OBI

JOHN DOORE BELIEVES HISSELF
TO BE THE GREATEST, HERO OF
THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN... A
VALIANT CHAMPION CODE-NAMED
PARAGON JOHN.

HIS ENEMIES HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN PAXIS,
THOUGH TODAY WE
CALL THEM THE

HYPERKIND

SO...
YOU'VE CHOSEN
NEW NAMES
FOR YOUR-
SELVES--

--PITY
YOU WON'T
BE USING
THEM ANY
LONGER!

NOW, FOUR TEENAGERS WITH
IMMENSE POWERS ARE THE
CAPTIVES OF THE LONE MAN
WHO ENGINEERED THEIR
PREDECESSORS' DESTRUCTION!

AMOKK, RAGING
BEAST OF INSTINCT...

... ARMATA,
ONE-WOMAN
COMBAT
SQUAD...

... LOGIX, COOL
MASTER OF
INTELLECT...

**UNDER
PRESSURE**

A TALE OF THE
BARKERVERSE

... AND BLISS,
TEMPRESS
OF DREAMS!

CREATED BY CLIVE BARKER

STORY: FRED BURKE	PENCILS: PARIS CULLINS & FRANCHESCO	INKS: BOB PETRECCA & JORDI ENSON	LETTERS: STEVE DUTRO	COLORS: TOM SMITH	EDITS: MARC MCLAURIN
CONSULTING EDITS: MALCOLM SMITH			EXECUTIVE EDITS: CARL POTTS		
CHIEF EDITS: TOM DEFALCO					

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THIS
IS YOUR
HISTORY,
YOUNG
ONES!

WORLDS
AT WAR...
CONQUERING
HEROES...

...DO-GOODERS
WITH THE
POWERS OF
GODS!



YOU
DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING TO
DO WITH
IT, SILLY
GIRL...

...NOT ANY
LONGER!

YOU ARE MY PRISONERS...
YOUR ENHANCED ABILITIES
NULLIFIED. YOU ARE HERE
FOR ONLY ONE PURPOSE--

--TO LEARN THE
TRUTH BEHIND
MY GREATEST
TRIUMPH...

WHEN JOHAN DOORE
HAD A SON...



"...HIS
NEWS-
PAPERS
TOLD
THE
WORLD!

"BUT I WASN'T THE
PERFECT SON HE
WANTED..."



WAAAH!

ENOUGH
OF THIS
CHILDISH-
NESS!



THIS
IS THE
HISTORY
OF THE
FAXIS--

--OBLITERATED
FOR ALL TIME!

NOT IF
WE HAVE
ANYTHING
TO DO
WITH IT!

...AND TO TAKE THAT
SECRET TO YOUR
GRAVES!



...AND SO I BECAME THAT PARAGON...

...THE HEIGHT OF
INTELLECTUAL AND
PHYSICAL PROWESS...



...READY TO JOIN
MY HEROES...

PLEASED
TO MEET
YOU, SIR!

...THE GREATEST
HYPERKIND IN
THE WORLD...!
THE FAXIS!

"WHEN THE LEADER OF THE PAXIS TOOK ME TO THEIR GRAND HALL, I THOUGHT ESCHBACHER BELIEVED IN ME..."

THIS
WHELP DOES
NOT SEEK THE
ENLIGHTENED PATH!
HE IS UNFIT FOR
THE POWERS OF
THE QUD!

OF
COURSE,
SIR!

"IT WAS THEN I LEARNED THE HORRIBLE TRUTH--
ESCHBACHER WAS NO HERO! AND THE MEN SAMURAI!
WHO HAD GIVEN THEM THEIR POWERS HAD PLANS OF
HIS OWN... TO USE THE PAXIS TO ENSLAVE MANKIND!"

NO! YOU'RE WRONG! ESCH-
BACHER GAVE US THESE
POWERS! HE WAS A TRUE
HERO--TO THE END!

BELIEVE WHAT YOU WILL--
BUT MY COURSE, IN THOSE
TROUBLED TIMES, WAS
CLEAR...



"I SAW
HORRORS
I COULD
NOT
BELIEVE..."

"...WITNESSED THE
ATROCITIES MAN
COULD UNLEASH
UPON MAN..."

"...ANOTHER WAR WAS
STARTING, AND THE
WORLD NEEDED A MAN
WITH MY STRENGTHS!"

THERMAK--
THAT LIZARD'S
THE REAL
MENACE!

"...ONLY TO
FIND THAT THE
PAXIS HAD
TAKEN ON A
SIDEKICK--
HAD TURNED
ME DOWN
FOR A SILLY
KID NAMED
JSCOOTER!"

RIIP

GRRR!

SO I
WASN'T
GOOD
ENOUGH
FOR THEM!

"IT WAS THEN THAT I VOWED
TO AID MY FELLOW MAN--
AND DESTROY THE PAXIS!"



"IN MY ZEAL, I ATTACKED
WITH ONLY MY PRIMITIVE
WEAPONS, MY STRENGTH,
AND MY VALOR."

JOHNNY!
CALM DOWN!
IT'LL BE
OKAY!

THERMAKK
WAS REALLY
RIGHT ABOUT
THIS MUT-
CASE!

"DREAMDANCE WAS
THE FIRST TO FALL--
AND I MIGHT HAVE
CONQUERED ALL
OF THEM..."

THAT
ALIEN'S A
MONSTER!
WE'LL DESTROY
US! DON'T YOU
SEE?

"...HAD NOT THERMAKK SHOWN HIS
TRUE COLORS--MUTATING INTO A
HIDEOUS MONSTER FOR ALL TO SEE!

"YOU TRIED TO TAKE
ON THERMAKK SOLO?
WE BARELY FOUGHT
THERMAKK WITH
OUR POWERS!
YOU REALLY
ARE CRAZY,
DUDE!"

NOT CRAZY! :AHEM: I WAS
THINKING MORE CLEARLY THAN I
EVER HAD. SOMETHING HAD TO BE
DONE TO STOP THEM--AND I HAD
THE WILL TO DO IT!



THANK YOU, DR. TRANSON... PERHAPS YOU'LL HAVE MORE LUCK WITH MY SON THAN I...

"UNFORTUNATELY, MY FATHER VIEWED MY HEROISM IN A DARKER LIGHT AND HAD ME COMMITTED TO THE MOWADE HOME."

NO! FATHER! YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE ME HERE!

WE'LL USE EVERY MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL, MR. DOORE...

I KNOW YOUR SON'S BREAKDOWN HAS BEEN TRAUMATIC FOR YOU.

IT WAS MORE TRAUMATIC FOR ME.

JUST A LITTLE MORE...

GAAA!

"DR. TRANSON'S TREATMENTS WENT FAR BEYOND THE NORM..."

"...BUT I ENDURED!"

Z-MAN

MONROE

"WHEN I WAS RELEASED, FIVE YEARS LATER, I FELT THAT TRANSON AND I WERE OLD FRIENDS..."

"...WHO SHARED INTERESTS IN COMMON."

I'M HOME, FATHER-- ARE YOU PLEASED TO SEE ME?

ZZZZAP

MY FATHER DIED BY THE RADIO, JUST AS HE LIVED BY IT.

NOW I PLAN TO CONTINUE ON THE AIRWAVES-- ONLY THIS TIME WITH TELEVISION!

PRESS

"AND SO I RETURNED TO POWER..."



"...THOUGH NO ONE BUT I ENVISIONED JUST HOW POWERFUL I WOULD BECOME!"

"I WAS... **PERTURBED**... THAT THE IRREPRESSIBLE **SCOOTER**..."



"...HAD BECOME THE NEW HERO ON THE SCENE. **Z-MAN**..."

"...NOW SOMEHOW ENDOVED WITH **ATOMIC POWER**, BUT THAT FACT OPENED LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES BEFORE ME."

"RENEWING MY FRIENDSHIP WITH **DR. TRANSMON**, I BEGAN TO EXPLORE THE EFFECTS OF **CHEMICALS** AND **RADIATION**--

"--ON **HUMAN SUBJECTS**!"

"TRANSMON CALLED THE RESULTING **FREAKS ZANIACS**..."



"...BUT-- WITH ONE **STRANGE EXCEPTION**-- MY EXPERIMENTS WERE A FAILURE..."

"... AND TRANSMON, OF COURSE, PROMISED TO **KILL** THE UNREWARDING SUBJECTS."

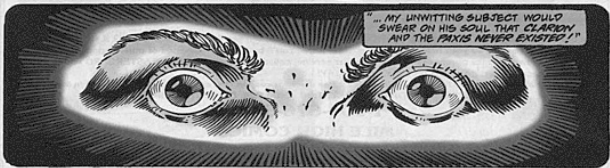
KAKRESH!

"UNDAUNTED, I TOOK MY NEXT CUE FROM THE **RIDICULOUS REVISIONIST HISTORY** OF **WWII** THEN BEING PUBLISHED..."

"... AND RESOLVED TO WIPE THE VERY **MEMORY** OF **PAKIS**..."



"...FROM THE **FACE** OF THE **PLANET**..."





"OF COURSE, ELIMINATING CLARON HIMSELF WOULD PROVE MORE DIFFICULT..."

"... BUT NOT MUCH MORE!"

"CLARON'S WAS THE POWER OF GOD-CONSCIOUSNESS, AND I SOUGHT HIM OUT WITHIN THE QUD TEMPLE--THE PYRAMID THEY CALLED THE PAXIS GRAND HALL!"

"IN THE SHADOWS... JOHN DOORE..."

"...YOU ARE WELL, I PRAY'S"



"I ALMOST KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL--"

"--BEING ABLE TO EXPAND YOUR SENSES BEYOND THE LIMITATIONS WE MERE MORTALS SHARE..."

"IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE..."

"OF COURSE! THE COMPLEXITY OVERWHELMS!"

"BUT TO EXPAND ONE'S VERY CONSCIOUSNESS AS YOU CAN, PAST ALL BOUNDARIES?"



"YES... BUT THE QUD WARNER..."

"AS ADAM WAS WARNED NOT TO EAT OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE? SHOULD YOU BEWARE YOUR POWER TO BECOME ONE WITH GOD?"

"AH, DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF IT!"

"SO MUCH, CAN I CONTAIN IT?"



"DON'T CONTAIN IT! BE ONE WITH IT! LET IT GO!"

"--ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF CLARON--"

"--WHOSE GOD-CONSCIOUSNESS HAD MADE HIM ONE WITH THE WORLD."

"AND SO I WAS LEFT ALONE WITH BUT A WISP OF SMOKE--"



"DIABOLICAL!"

"AND BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE. THE WORLD NEVER HEARD FROM CLARON AGAIN..."



"IT WAS HARD--THE ASYLUM, THE THINGS I WENT THROUGH..."

"I AM SORRY, BUT SOMETIMES WE HURT WHEN WE GROW..."

"DON'T BE SORRY!"

"I HAVE SEEN THE WAY, AND MOVED FAR BEYOND MY FORMER LIMITATIONS!"



"BUT I DIGRESS. THE TEMPEST, I KNEW, WOULD REQUIRE A MORE PHYSICAL MEANS OF DEFEAT, YIELDING AS SHE DID THE FERAL ANIMALISTIC ASPECT OF THE QLO POWER..."

"...AND I STILL HAD A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THAT MISERABLE CRETIN SCOOTER!"

"I ANONYMOUSLY TIPPED OFF TEMPEST AS TO THE LOCAL WHEREABOUTS OF A SUPER-VILLIAN CALLED INEXTREMIS..."



"MY ZANIAC RESEARCH HELPED ME CREATE A DEVICE WHICH PROMPTED Z-MAN TO MOMENTARILY LOSE CONTROL..."



"DREAMDANCE
WAS NEXT.

"SECURING HER WAS RELATIVELY
SIMPLE, AS A PRELIMINARY
FORMULA FOR THE ZONA PROVED
EFFECTIVE AGAINST HER POWER
OF MIND-GRIPPING ILLUSION!

AAAGH!

YOU'LL
NEVER DESTROY
US, YOU MADMAN!
NEVER!

"I SET ABOUT TO... UN-
COVER... THE MYSTERY
OF THE PAXIS TOWERS
BURIED WITHIN HER, IN
THE NAME OF SCIENCE...
ONLY TO BE BRUTALLY
BURNED FOR MY CURIOSITY
BY THE STRANGE INSIGNIA
WHICH WAS PART OF
HER METALLIC FLESH!

"BUT IT WAS
HER OR THE
WORLD.

"THE WORLD
MEN."

"NEXT WAS LOGICKA, WHOM I ATTACKED
WITH THE WEAPON SHE HERSELF WIELDED...
COLD LOGIC."

SURELY
YOU CAN SEE
WHAT IS HAPPENING!
TEMPEST DEAD.
CLARION DISAPPEARED
AND NOW DREAM-
DANCE...

AND DREAM-
DANCE? I CAN'T
GIVE HER UP...

...PERHAPS
SHE, LIKE THE
OTHERS, HAS
SEEN THAT THE
PAXIS NO LONGER
SERVE THEIR
PURPOSE--

HOW
SO?

WELL, I
HAD HOPED
NOT TO HAVE TO
SHOW YOU THIS...
BUT IT'S OBVIOUS
THAT DREAM-
DANCE--

--DIDN'T HAVE THE
COURAGE TO CONTINUE.
FROM HOW I FOUND
THIS, IT'S CLEAR DREAM-
DANCE'S LIFE ENDED A
NIGHTMARE. DON'T
END YOURS THE SAME
WAY...

LOGICKA'S
TOUCH
FREED THE
QUO KEY
FROM THE
FLESH IN
WHICH IT HAD
BEEN IMBEDDED.

FWASH

NO... SHE'S GONE... AND
ALL I FEEL IS COLD.

I CAN'T
LIVE THIS
WAY...

THE QUO MANIPULATION BEHIND THE
SCENES--IT'S DESTROYING AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY! IF YOU'RE TRULY SERIOUS
ABOUT PROTECTING OUR IDEALS,
YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE IT UP...

"I OFFERED THE ONLY LOGICAL SOLUTION... DISSOLUTION."

PRÉBANDANCE
IS DEAD.
ESCHBACHER--
AND I'M
THROUGH!

THE QUO
PHILOSOPHY
ISN'T WHAT
THE EARTH
NEEDS!

THE DEVIL
TAKE THE
QUO!

BUT YOU
CAN'T JUST GIVE
UP BECAUSE A
COMRADE'S FALLEN!
WE HAVE THE
POWER TO CHANGE
THE WORLD!

YOU
CAN'T QUIT!
I WON'T
LET YOU!

ESCHBACHER'S ANGER
WAS A JOY TO BEHOLD.
HIS SOLDIER'S DREAM
OF A NEW WORLD ORDER
COMING APART AT THE
SEAMS!

SAVE IT
FOR WHAT?
ENDLESS
PASSIVITY,
AS THE QUO
PREACH ♯

I'M DONE,
ESCHBACHER--
I'M RELEASING
THE POWERS
AND FREESING
MYSELF!

"AND LOGICKA VANISHED
AT THE SPEED OF THOUGHT.
I NEVER HEARD FROM
HER AGAIN."

YOUR
CHANCE TO
REMAKE YOUR
WORLD HAS
FAILED
ESCHBACHER!

KLINK

THE
KEYS! RETURN
THEM TO ME--
IMMEDIATELY!

I'M TIRED
OF FOLLOWING
YOUR ORDERS,
YOU GRUMMY
ALIEN!

IF THESE
PAXIS CAN'T DO
THE JOB, I'LL
FIND SOME
WHO CAN!

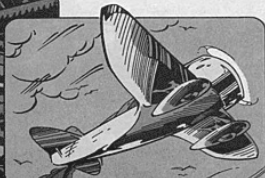
NO!

AND HE
DID!

"HE DID NOT! I MADE SURE OF THAT!"

"WHEN MY SUPPLY OF ZONA WAS READY I QUICKLY DOGGED ALL THE WORLD'S WATER SUPPLIES!"

"THE DRUG'S A GENTLE SODORIFIC HALLUCINOGEN, RENDERING HUMAN BEINGS SUSCEPTIBLE TO MY SUGGESTION, LESS CERTAIN OF THEIR OWN BELIEFS."



"SEEDED INTO THE VERY CLOUDS OF THE EARTH, MY ZONA SOON MADE EVERY LIFE-GIVING DROP OF WATER A THIEF AS WELL -- STEALING THE MEMORY OF THE PAXIS FROM THE WORLD FOREVER!"



ZONA IS FOOLPROOF-- MY GREATEST CREATION! AND NOW YOU WILL TAKE MY SECRET TO YOUR GRAVES-- IN EVERY CELL OF YOUR HORRID HYPERKIND BODIES!



NO ONE ESCAPES. I MADE CERTAIN OF THAT.

RHMPH. YOU DIDN'T TRULY BELIEVE I'D TELL YOU ALL OF THIS IF YOU HAD ANY HOPE OF YOUR RELEASE, DID YOU?

"IN ELIMINATING THE MEMORY OF THE PAXIS, I ALSO NEEDED TO REMOVE THE HISTORY OF WHAT THEY'D DONE FROM EVERY LIVING PERSON! SOON THE AIRWAVES WERE FILLED WITH MY SUBLIMINAL SUGGESTIONS, BEAMED INTO EVERY HOME --

--REWRITING HISTORY, SO THAT THE NORRISIAN-ANABIST! EARTH WARS NEVER OCCURRED, AND THE PAXIS NEVER WAS!

"PARAGON PICTURES SOON RELEASED MOVIES OF FICTIONAL PAXIS ADVENTURES AND PLAYED UP THE IDEA THAT THE PAXIS WERE A HOAX..."

"WITH MY FATHER'S BILLIONS, IT WASN'T HARD TO BRIBE BUREAUCRATS TO 'LOSE' CERTAIN GOVERNMENT RECORDS OF THE PAXIS..."

"...AND ONCE I TRADE-MARKED AND COPYRIGHTED THE VERY WORD, I COULD DESTROY ANYONE WHO TRIED TO WRITE ABOUT THE 'HEROES'..."

"...WHOSE LEGEND WAS RAPIDLY BEING FORGOTTEN!"

"PROGRAMMING THE WORLD'S COMPUTERS TO REJECT THE WORD CAME LATER."

"...EVENTUALLY, WHEN THE MOVIES' WORK HAD BEEN DONE, I EVEN REMOVED THESE FILMS FROM CIRCULATION."

"AND AS MY PUBLISHING EMPIRE GREW, I ACQUIRED MORE NEWSPAPERS, SYSTEMATICALLY DESTROYING ALL PRINT AND MICROFILM RECORDS OF THE PAXIS."

"THE PARAGON HISTORICAL TRUST PERSUADES SCHOLARS TO FORGET-- AND MERCILESSLY NOUNTS THOSE WHO REFUSE."

"AND HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SUPER-HERO CULT WORSHIP?"

"THEY SHOULDN'T GO PUTTING IDEAS INTO THE MINDS OF CHILDREN-- BUT WHAT THEY DO IN THEIR OWN HOMES IS THEIR BUSINESS!"

"TODAY, IF THERE ARE ANY WHO BELIEVE IN THE PAXIS, THEY'RE WELL HIDDEN. ANY SUCH CULTISTS ARE CALLED A 'SATANIC MENACE'--ON MY TV TALK SHOWS!"



FOR OVER A DECADE, I HAVE COASTED, USING MY POWERFUL MEDIA APPARATUS TO WIFE OUT THE SO-CALLED VIRTUES THAT FAXIS ONCE STOOD FOR--

--AND MAKING A MOUNTAIN OF MONEY AT THE SAME TIME.

PEOPLE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD--WHO BELIEVE THEY ARE VICTIMS OR IMPERFECT--

--WILL HAPPILY BUY ANYTHING TO FIX THEIR POOR SELF-IMAGES.

I LOVE THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD I'VE CREATED!

SOME WORLD-- YOU'VE ENSLAVED EVERY HUMAN IN REACH OF A TELEVISION--

--TO A LIFE OF DISEMPOWERMENT, WAGE SLAVERY, AND INQUENCHABLE DESIRE.

AND YET, WITH THE EMPIRE AND POWER YOU WIELD, YOU COULD AS EASILY END ALL THE WORLD'S WOBES!

ALAS, YES--IF MY ENERGY WEREN'T REQUIRED TO DESTROY THE MEMORY OF THE FAXIS, I COULD DO SO MUCH!

BUT SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE.

YOU ALL FOR EXAMPLE, YOUR LIVES MUST BE SACRIFICED FOR THE GREATER SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR POWERS!

UNLESS YOU'D PREFER TO TELL ME OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL--HOW DID YOU GET THESE POWERS OF YOURS?

I WAS GIVEN THEM, ACTUALLY... BY ESCHBACHER! AND THAT THERMAK GUY, HE TRIED TO KILL US...

SO YOU CAN CHANGE BACK AND FORTH FROM THIS REGULAR ONE...

...LIKE IN THE COMIC BOOKS?

OOH-- IT'S NEAT! THE KEY--

--IS THAT WE CAN'T.

ONCE THE TRANSFIGURATION PROCESS IS COMPLETE, THERE'S NO GOING BACK.

I SEE AND WHERE IS THE COUNTERPART TO CLARION?

TH--THERE WERE ONLY FOUR OF US...

YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?!

THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO BELIEVE ISN'T IT?

THAT'S YOUR DREAM, TO JOIN US AS HYPER-KIND?



YES, PARAGON JOHN! THAT'S IT! WE'RE NOT THE PAXIS...

...WE WOULDN'T EVEN BE ACTING AS A TEAM, IF NOT FOR YOUR CHALLENGE! HAVE THE FIFTH POWER!

WH-WHAT? CAN THIS BE TRUE?



YOU COULD... YOU COULD...? I WOULD MAKE A GOOD PAXIS...



...BUT IF THIS IS A TRICK YOU'LL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR FRIENDS DYING MORE SLOWLY AND HORRIBLY THAN YOU COULD IMAGINE!

WITHOUT EVEN REMEMBERING WHY!



IF YOU COULD MAKE THIS SO, YOU'D BE RESPONSIBLE FOR USHERING IN A NEW GOLDEN AGE TO THIS WORLD!

AHEM. NOW, TO ASSURE YOUR COOPERATION, I'LL LEAVE THE ZONA FLOW ON A TIMER...

...RETURN ME HERE--TRANSQUARED. WITHIN THE HOUR, AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL LIVE TO SEE THE GLORIOUS NEW DAWN WE'LL BRING!

I'LL PREPARE THE WAY...

NO! LOGIX YOU CAN'T! TRAITOR!



...AT THOUGHTSPEED! IT'S THE ONLY LOGICAL SOLUTION FOR ALL OF US, ARMATA. PITY I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SEE THAT!

SPEEDY TRAITOR!



JUST GOES TO PROVE THAT THOUGHTS DON'T MAKE THE MAN!

CHILL, ARMATA. MAYBE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY...



TH-THANK YOU...

...THOUGH YOUR FRIENDS REVILE YOU...THE WORLD WILL THANK YOU...

THE ABANDONED MILITARY
CINEMA... HIDING PLACE OF
POWERS ONCE THOUGHT
LONG-LOST...



THIS IS WHERE
ESCHBACHER HID
THE POWER
SARCOPHAGUS UNDER MY NOSE
ALL THIS TIME?

OF COURSE, THIS
WILL HAVE TO DO, IN
FAVOR OF A MUCH
MORE REGAL SETTING...
REMINISCENT OF THE
OLD GRAND HALL.

ALTHOUGH
THE TECHNOLOGY
IS INCREDIBLE!
MORE AMAZING
THAN I COULD'VE
IMAGINED!

IT WAS FAR SUPERIOR,
BEFORE THE GUD COM-
PUTER WAS WRECKED
IN OUR FIGHT WITH
THERMANK!

THE
GREATEST MINDS
ACROSS THE WORLD
SHALL SEE TO
ITS REPAIR!

ONCE WE'VE UNITED
THE WORLD'S
GOVERNMENTS UNDER
ONE RULE...

OH... IS...
IS THIS
IT?

YOUR
DREAM
AWAITS...

THE POWER
OF CLARION...
A PARAGON
REMADE!

YES... YOUR
WISDOM IN THIS
WON'T BE
FORGOTTEN!

ONCE WE'VE TOPPLED
THE PETTY
DICTATORSHIPS AND
OLIGARCHIES OF
THE WORLD, THEN I
CAN TRULY SHOW
MY APPRECIATION...

ONCE
WE'VE
REMADE
THE
WORLD...

REMADE...
IN YOUR
IMAGE?

IN THE
PERFECT
IMAGE...
THOUGH
SACRIFICES
MUST BE
MADE!

YOU'LL
SEE, THEY'LL
ALL SEE!

FATHER
WOULD HAVE
BEEN SO
PROUD...

YOU SURE THIS IS
WHAT YOU WANT?

OH,
YES...

...please...

AS JOHN'S PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED,
THE MINUTES TICK OMINOUSLY BY...

...AND AT MINUTE FIFTY-SEVEN, TEN
HYPERKIND WAIT IMPATIENTLY...THEIR
VERY LIVES JUST MINUTES FROM
ERASURE AND EXTINCTION!

...STOP
SAYIN' THAT
ARNATA! LOOK! X'S
GOTTA HAVE SOME
KIND OF PLAN,
HE WOULDN'T DO
THIS TO US!

KENNY'S
DONE WORSE
TO ME BEFORE,
GEORGE.
REMEMBER?

FIRST
HE STOLE
MY HEART AND
TOSSED IT--
NOW HE'S DOING
IT TO MY
LIFE!

DON'T
BLAME HIM,
LISA (IE YOU
HAVE TO BLAME
SOMEONE
BEFORE WE
GO--BLAME
ME!

OKAY...

"...NOT LIKE THERE ISN'T ENOUGH
BLAME TO GO AROUND, WE TOOK
THESE POWERS TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.

"--AND IT'S
TOO LATE.

TIK TIK TIK TIK

TIK TIK TIK

"NOW WE ALL KNOW JUST
HOW BIG A THREAT WE
WERE UP AGAINST... KNOW
HOW MUCH HE'S GOTTA
BE STOPPED."

"ALL OUR STUPID
SQUABBLING HAS
KEPT US FROM MAKING
THE DIFFERENCE THAT
WE SHORE WE WOULD!"

AND NOW
WE'RE GONNA
DIE WITH THE
ANSWER TO THE
GREATEST SECRET
IN THE WORLD...

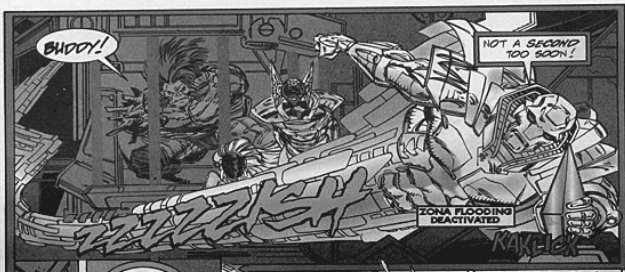
...AND
NOBODY'LL
EVEN
KNOW.

!

THAT'S
IT. SAY
GOODNIGHT,
GRACE...

...G'NIGHT,
GRACE...

CHAK



NOT A SECOND
TOO SOON!

ZONA FLOODING
DEACTIVATED

RAKLEK



EMERGENCY V GEAR DISENGAGED



HE'S LET THE WORLD
DOWN, BLISS! PARAGON
JOHN, WITH GOD-
CONSCIOUSNESS?!

HE'S
DOOMED
US ALL!
AND
BESIDES,
THEY'RE MY
SARCOPHAGI.

I'VE SAVED US ALL!
ESCHBACHER SAID TO
USE THE QUD POWERS
FOR EARTH...

...HOW WERE YOU
PLANNING TO DO
THAT--IF YOU WERE
DEAD?!

MY WAY WAS THE
ONLY SENSIBLE
SOLUTION, ARMATA.



SENSIBLE?
COULDN'T
YOU HEAR
WHAT THAT
GUY WAS
SAYING?

HITLER'S
FINAL SOLUTION
MADE SENSE TO SOME.
ONCE... DOESN'T MAKE
IT ANY LESS HORRIFYING,
OR LESS EVIL!

HEAR
HIM OUT! MY
GUESS IS LOGIX'S
THOUGHT A WAY
OUTTA THIS
MESS!

PARAGON JOHN
GAVE US ALL
THE TOOLS WE
NEEDED...



...IT WAS EASY TO
SWIPE THE SMALL
ZONA VIAL AND
SYRINGE--

--AT THOUGHTSPEED!



"HE WAS TOO WRAPPED
UP IN HIS OWN VEILED
THREATS AND
FANTASIES TO EVEN
FEEL THE INJECTION!"



YOU
MEAN--?

BREEP BREEP

I MEAN I'VE SPENT THE LAST
HALF HOUR RE-PROGRAMMING
HIM AS BEST I COULD! THAT'S
WHAT'S KEPT ME--



SEALING THE COMPLEX

--THOUGH I COULDN'T ERASE US
COMPLETELY FROM HIS MEMORY, AT
LEAST HE WON'T RECALL US ANSWER-
ING HIS CHALLENGE! NOW GO!

BUT WHAT
ABOUT YOU?



I'VE GOT ONE LAST
BIT OF BUSINESS TO
TAKE CARE OF...

...ERASING ANY
RECORDINGS OF
OUR LITTLE GROUP
ENCOUNTER.

ERASING SURVEILLANCE
FILES

ERASING AUDIO
AND VIDEO LOGS

ERASING



LATER.

BOY ARE THOSE TROOPERS CONFUSED! ONE MINUTE THEY'VE GOT FOUR SUPER-CAPTIVES...

...AND THE NEXT MINUTE, THE BOSS-MAN'S TELLING THEM WE WERE NEVER THERE!

BUT ALL THOSE SOLDIERS KNOW WE WERE CAPTURED!

DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY'D ARGUE WITH PARAGON JOHN?



"...WE MAY'VE GIVEN PARAGON JOHN A WHOLE NEW REASON TO HATE A NEW GENERATION OF HYPERKIND..."

EXCELLENT. SO THE INTER-LOPER IN NEW YORK -- TRIP MUNROE -- HAS AGREED TO DO L.A. FRIDAY NIGHT, IN RETURN FOR BAIL MONEY & A

N SEE HOKUM I HEX #5 FOR DETAILS. --MARC



GOOD GOIN' BUDDY!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT. I HOPE HE DOESN'T REMEMBER WHAT WE DID TO HIM-- BECAUSE OTHERWISE...



I HAVE SUCH PLANS FOR HIM...



"...WE'LL SHOW ALL AMERICA-- THERE'S NO PLACE FOR SUPER POWERS IN A DECENT SOCIETY."

"EVERYTHING'S FINE..."



...YOU SEE, ARMATA NO NEED TO COME DOWN ON LOGIX--EVERYTHING AT OUR HQ IS SAFE AND SOUND!

STILL, LOGIX, THAT WAS A HECK OF A CHANCE YOU TOOK, LETTING JOHN ACTUALLY STEP INTO THE SARCOPHAGUS...

NOT REALLY AS SOON AS WE ENTERED THE CHAMBER, I KNEW THE POWER WOULD NEVER BE HIS... I COULDN'T TRANSFORM PARAGON JOHN-- EVEN IF I WANTED TO!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT--



--THE FIFTH BALL! IT'S DARK!

WHILE WE WERE HELD PRISONER...

SOMEONE'S STOLEN THE FINAL POWER!

AND IF THAT DOESN'T HAVE YOU WORRIED ENOUGH, CHECK OUT HOKUM I HEX #5, IN WHICH TRIP MUNROE MEETS... THE HYPER-KIND-- THEN BE BACK HERE AS TRIP AND THE NEO-PAXIS CONFRONT THE GREATEST ENEMIES OF THE ORIGINAL PAXIS! ENTER:

THE VEXUS!

HYPERKIND

some great things

Some really great things came out of August's RAZORLINE conference. With all of the writers and most of the artists in the same room for an extended amount of time with the man behind the *Barbarians*, the ideas were flying fast and furiously. And some interesting character aspects came out, about both the characters. In the books and the characters in the room.

Some of the writers who I know are very flamboyant idea machines on the phone and on paper seemed a little shy in the organized setting. And some of the creators who were reserved in our one-on-one dealings came out of their shells with more ideas in a split second than they'd told me about in the past month!

All of this served to assure me of one thing I had long ago begun to suspect: some of the RAZORLINE's strongest assets are synchronicity and simpatico. Synchronicity because these guys are thinking along amazingly similar lines, which are oceans apart from the mainstream of thought, and more fascinatingly entertaining than anything I've ever seen out there. Simpatico because, even as they finish each others' thoughts, these creators are very careful not to tread on those thoughts, making the creative experience that much more pleasant.

And, perhaps more importantly, they're having a real ball doing it.

your invitations in the mail

For all of you asking in sharing. In the fun, consider entering your local comic retailer if he's interested in having a RAZORLINE party, attended by one of the amazing creators in the RAZORLINE imprint. He can get more info by writing to us at the address above.

That's all. I'm ghost.

Dear Hyperfons.

I don't think I could give a better word for *Hyperkind*'s first issue than totally AWESOME! I have been a fan of Clive Barker since his first *Hellraiser* movie. I have always been intrigued and fascinated by Clive's universe and now that I could be part of his universe through RAZORLINE seems too good to be true.

Anyway, *Hyperkind* is one group I know I would definitely enjoy. But I do have a few questions.

1) Is Lisa's body some kind of liquid metal that she could form into any barrel-shaped gun that discharges energy explosives?

2) What happened to Dyan? Where did she go to? By the way, her picture on page 8 looks anatomically impossible (the way her arms are positioned, I mean).

3) I could only guess Kenny's the "Vision"-like person with the cape. I am very curious about what his powers are like.

4) George's character seems the best and fiercest fighter of them all. But do his blades change back into regular hands? What does he do when he gets an itch?

5) If Lisa has the ankhs as her symbol, what about the others? Where are their symbols located? Also, there are only four of them, and I thought there were supposed to be five. I could only speculate that

Lisa got Eschbacher. Kenny got Logicka. George got Tempest, so Dyan probably gets Dreamdance. Who will Clarion be then?

Well, I have been through the first issue of *Hyperkind* and I definitely would like to see more. All I want to say is, another GREAT WORK, GUYS! Here's another milestone in the Marvel empire.

I really hope the crossovers you're planning will come much later. For now, I am only interested in *Hyperkind* and *Saint Sinner*. I didn't care much for the *Eschbach* prologue at the end of the book. I sure hope you won't do this on the other books.

RAZORLINE REGIONS

Mel Atencido
57 Lorraine St.
Parkway Village, Quetzon City
Philippines 1106

By now you've seen the five pages in all of the RAZORLINE first issues. Mel, designed to give our readers a taste of the full scope of the *Barbarians*! We really want these titles to hold together as one universe, with many *hyperkind* (the Neo-Paxs, or capital H *Hyperkind*, among them). In that vein, we already had references back and forth between *Hyperkind* and *Holium & Hex*—and the full-fledged crossover is upon us! That's right—this month in *Holium & Hex* #5 we'll see how *H & H* writer Frank Lovece handles the *Hyperkind*, and next month *Trip Munroe* will be on hand in these pages to help our heroes battle the Vexus, a team so villainous it took a magical lava flow to stop their vicious mission to destroy the old Paxs team!

As to your questions, we've already seen many of them answered. Once in the sarcophagi, each of our characters was utterly remade, their bodies taken apart on every level and recreated with added power. In the remaking, the *Imagination* of the human involved created the "look" of the character. Armata's body is, like Eschbacher's before her, partially made of living metal—and capable of transforming into many weapons. Amold, on the other hand—er, *black*—is stuck with his deadly appendages. His flesh is tough enough to handle an urge to scratch...gently...but there are all sorts of nice activities he can no longer participate in.

By now, the symbols for each of the *Hyperkind* have become apparent—but Clarion's power, as you've seen this issue, has been used by forces unknown...just stay tuned—we promise a fifth Neo-Paxs in the near future!

Dear Hyperkind,

I bought the first issue of *Hyperkind* at Waldenbooks. I loved it. Has Fred Burke written other comics? I think Lisa is the best. She could kill Thermalk on her own. Is the Dutchman telling the story? Is the Dutchman also Eschbacher? He claimed he was. Do the Paxs Warriors lead a *Hyperkind* life? Is Clive Barker cool?

That's all for now...

Your comic book fan,
Sean Orlinnigan
8720 Spring Valley Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46231

Once Lisa is fully in control of the awesome power that Armata wields, she may indeed go head to head with Thermalk, Sean—but I think the Quo warrior might teach her a thing or two!

The Dutchman was Thermalk in disguise—and he was telling the story of the original Paxs in an attempt to revive Eschbacher's lost memories. Somewhere between my brain and the finished page, that beautiful spread of the original Paxs was colored as if it were Eschbacher reciting the tale. Oops.

The Paxs of America (from around 1917 to 1963) led a *hyperkind* life. Indeed! Chosen by the Quo, they virtually evolved into the forms of Clarion, Dreamdance, Tempest, Logicka, and Eschbacher. Sure, they could remove their keys anytime they wanted to—they just didn't want to!

Our *hyperkinds* are different. George, Kenny, Lisa, and Dyan were not chosen for their spiritual readiness (they're more like John Doe in that regard, strangely enough). They're not prepared to make the leap into full-time *hyperlife*. They're not even ready to be Paxs, which is why we've dubbed them The *Hyperkind*!

NEXT:

Trip Munroe is in L.A. at the behest of Paragon John. Just in time to unleash the greatest enemies of the original Paxs! You definitely don't want to miss our amazing sideways issue, as Trip and the *Hyperkind* turn L.A. on its ear!

ENTER...THE VEXUS!

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

Two weeks in
HOLIUM & HEX #5:

If you couldn't tell by this issue's final page, Trip Munroe is coming to L.A., under the direction of Paragon John! And the L.A. riots may pale in comparison to Trips first clash with the *Hyperkind*!

ELSEWHERE...ALONG THE RAZORS' EDGE: The season to cross-over!

EXTENDED #5:

Explore the unknown dangers of the world beyond in Part One of the two-part *Saint Sinner* Arcadia, guest-starring Saint Sinner! When the recently departed Philip Pether finds his spirit in a soul-stealing car, its Etoldid to the rescue! But, oops—Sigmold's got Dexs soul too! What's a deadboy to do?

SAIN'T SINNER #5:

In Part Two, Ask Sigmold's Arcadia, we find out! Meanwhile, Saint Sinner's body, kept alive by the angel and demon within, wanders the streets of New York as the demon hatches a plan to free himself from Pether's body, even if...heck, *especially* if it kills Philip!